

Her role as a STEM teacher landed her a spot on the STEM Council and Executive Committee in September 2013 where she has since served on the Business Engagement Committee that built the “Guidelines for School+Business Partnerships in STEM” and contributed to the STEM Council’s Seal of Approval. She has also since been honored as STEM MVP and received the Iowa STEM Teacher Award.

Now a teacher at Winterset High School, Kacia’s goal remains the same. She wishes to work hard to ensure that all Iowans can access the same opportunities, materials, and resources that are available everywhere, whether you be in an urban or a rural setting.

Kacia said she has always believed that STEM is about building partnerships through links beyond school walls and is excited to be a part of a group in a state that puts that idea at the forefront. Kacia is an example of how dedicated, selfless, and incredible hard work teachers and Iowans are. I cannot thank Kacia Cain enough for all she’s done to help the young people of our community, and I couldn’t be happier to name her as Iowan of the Week.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BRUCE BRONZAN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 28, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of longtime Fresnan and former State Assembly member, Bruce Bronzan, who passed away on September 28, 2020.

Bruce was born on September 28, 1947 in Fresno, California. He was a distinguished alumnus of California State University, Fresno and was a former Student Body President in the late 1960s. While serving as President, he found his calling for public service. This passion was the beginning of a lifetime career of strong leadership in service.

Bruce served on the Fresno County Board of Supervisors from 1975 until 1982, when he was elected to the California State Assembly, representing the Fresno area. During his time in state legislature, he focused on health care and mental health policy. He held key positions including Chairman of the Assembly Health Committee and Select Committee on Mental Health. As a result, he wrote hundreds of pieces of legislation relating to health care. He played a key role in the passage of the Mental Health Reform Act.

After serving in the State Legislature for eleven years, Bruce became the Associate Dean for Administration and Development at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) from 1993 to 1997; where he furthered his efforts and commitment for health care education and policy. Bruce’s major objective was to help build a model health care delivery system to address the shortage of primary doctors in the San Joaquin Valley. His contributions helped transform UCSF Fresno into the institution that is now. His vision created a path for the future of health care.

Additionally, he also served as a Senior Scholar with the UCSF Phil Lee Institute of Health Policy Studies and President of Trilogy, a healthcare internet company that developed

web portals for health and human services for counties and states.

Bruce is survived by wife, Jeri; his son Forrest Bronzan and wife Laura; and daughter Chloe Bronzan.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and honoring the life my friend Mr. Bruce Bronzan. I join his family, friends and community in honoring his great life and legacy.

SAM ALTMAN

HON. JOE CUNNINGHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 28, 2020

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember Samuel H. Altman’s legacy in the Lowcountry.

A true Charlestonian, Sam was born and raised in the Lowcountry. Sam was a hard worker and began working in his father’s furniture shop, studied hard in school, and went on to become an attorney for 54 years. He met a beautiful and talented artist named Susan, who ended up stealing his heart. They spent 55 magical years together, traveling often, and spending time with their children.

Sam had many different interests and creative pursuits in life. He loved the Big Easy and would visit New Orleans time and time again. Sam took pride in the sights and culture of Charleston, and felt called to serve on the City of Charleston Board of Zoning Adjustment for over 25 years. Sam was a frequent fan in the stands at the College of Charleston Cougar basketball games, but was also the number one fan and biggest champion of Susan’s art.

Sam was a man of integrity who led by example and was happy to help any and everyone. It was a privilege to know him and a blessing to call him a friend. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family, friends, and loved ones mourning his passing.

HONORING THE CAREER OF LARRY SALINAS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 28, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a longtime friend, Mr. Larry Salinas for being appointed as Senior Advisor to Chancellor-Select Castro of the California State University System. Larry will be leaving his role as Executive Director of Governmental Relations for California State University, Fresno, where he served since 2016.

Larry is a native of Austin, Texas and a 41-year resident of the Central Valley, where he resides in Clovis, California. He earned his bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Fresno State in 1986. Salinas served as the District Director to former State Assemblyman and Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante of Fresno. He also served on the staff of three members of the United States Congress.

He then joined the private sector, working for PG&E as a Governmental Affairs Manager from 1995 to 2000. In fall of 2000, Larry was

selected as the Founding Director of Governmental Relations for the development of the University of California, Merced. His knowledge and experience led him to be appointed to serve in a higher capacity within the University of California system, as the Associate Director of Institutional Relations & Advocacy to former DHS Secretary and UC President, Janet Napolitano.

Larry currently serves as the Executive Director of Governmental Relations at Fresno State. In this position, he serves as the principal governmental liaison and advisor between the University and policy makers at the local, state and federal levels.

In early 2019, he was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to serve on the California 21st District Agricultural Association, Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors. He is also a member of the Donor Network Board of Directors, in which he is a strong advocate for organ and tissue donations at many levels to help give hope to thousands of people waiting on the transplant list.

Larry has over 36 years of political and public affairs experience. He is a proud Fresno State alumnus, Central Valley native, father and grandfather. He has made a significant difference in public service and in the lives of many students.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Larry Salinas as he enters this new chapter in his life and career. I look forward to seeing the valuable initiatives and success that he will contribute to the Chancellor’s Office and the CSU System.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 28, 2020

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to make the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 247; YEA on Roll Call No. 246; YEA on Roll Call No. 245; and YEA on Roll Call No. 244.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES ALEXANDER AREIAS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 28, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of James Areias, who passed away on September 30, 2020. He was a husband, father, and a veteran.

James was born in Volta, California on July 25, 1928 to Jess and Genevieve Areias. He attended and graduated from L.B. High School. James started working in the dairy business immediately after high school with his dad. In January of 1952, he joined the United States Air Force.

During his time in the Air Force, James was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas and at Texas & Walker Air Force Base in Roswell, New Mexico. He specialized in medical training and was honorably discharged.

After four years of service, James returned the family dairy business with his three brothers, John, Jess, and Larry. After some deliberation, James thought it would be good to move the family business to 13621 W. Henry Miller Road in Los Banos.

James was a member of Our Lady of Fatima Society and president for 8 years, Director of the Los Banos Dairyman's Association many years, driver for cancer patients for 10 years, and volunteered at New Bethany Residential & Skilled Facility for 20 years, just a few of his interests. He was a member at the San Luis Canal Company over 60 years, U.S. American Legion in Los Banos, charter member for National WWII Museum in memory of his brother, was honored in 2013 for living in Merced County for over 50 years, and 2017 Honor for Outstanding Volunteer in Merced County.

James is survived by his wife of 68 years, Dolores; their sons, James Areias, Jr. and wife Janice, Dennis Areias and wife Kirsten; and daughters, Cynthia Arambel and husband Daniel, and Julie Areias.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and honoring the life of Mr. James Alexander Areias. A proud veteran, dedicated dairy farmer and an outstanding role model in the community. I join his family, friends and community in honoring his great life and contributions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 28, 2020

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 250.

HONORING THE CAREER OF THE
HONORABLE MAX RODRIGUEZ

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 28, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of my good friend Max Rodriguez. Supervisor Rodriguez is a longtime Madera County Supervisor for District 4 and a trusted leader in our community. Supervisor Rodriguez is retiring after serving on the Board of Supervisors for the past 15 years.

Supervisor Rodriguez was born and raised in Madera, California. He graduated from Madera High School in 1958 and went to Fresno City College. Shortly after, Supervisor Rodriguez took jobs working in the fields in order to provide for his family. He then began working for American Forest Products, known as North Fork Sawmill, for 25 years. During his time at the sawmill, Supervisor Rodriguez was the Financial Secretary and President of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union. In 1985 when the sawmill closed, Supervisor Rodriguez went back to school and became a Farmers Insurance agent until his retirement in 2008.

Supervisor Rodriguez was appointed to the Madera District Fair Board by Governor Jerry

Brown, appointed to the Madera County Mosquito Abatement Board from 1982 to 2001, and served as a Madera County Planning Commissioner. In 2003, Supervisor Rodriguez decided to run for Madera County Board of Supervisors and won his current seat in 2004. During his tenure on the board, he has prioritized his constituents and worked hard for the people of Madera County. He was past member and vice-president of the Pan-American club, former volunteer for American Heart Association, past member of New Hope Madera, NAACP Branch 1084, and Madera Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He is currently the Chairman of First Five Commission, Madera County Transportation Commission, Local Agency Formation Commission, Tesoro Viejo Conservancy and sits on the High-Speed Rail Heavy Maintenance Facility task force.

During his free time, Supervisor Rodriguez is an active member of St. Joachim's Catholic Church and enjoys spending time with his wife Sarah and their family. He also loves to fish and camp and enjoys being in nature.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the career of Supervisor Max Rodriguez. His love for public service and Madera County is evident throughout the course of his career. I join his family and friends in congratulating Supervisor Max Rodriguez on a well-deserved retirement and wish him continued health and happiness in this new phase of life.

HONORING JOSH NUSS AS IOWAN
OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 28, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, today I want to honor a Iowan who is fighting for change and assistance for those who have amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, ALS or also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. Executive Director of the Iowa ALS Society, Josh Nuss, has been a leading champion in our state for those diagnosed with this tragic, progressive and misunderstood disease. I am proud to honor Josh as our Iowan of the Week.

Earlier in December, I was proud to vote for a bill that ensure those who have ALS can receive social security benefits as soon as they receive their diagnosis. I'm glad to see that bill signed into law, which is going to offer financial assistance to those with this disease. But perhaps no one was more excited to see this legislation pass than Josh, who listened to the vote happen live as it passed the Senate and then the House. Josh said it was amazing to hear Senators and Representatives from across the country speak on behalf of those with ALS. He hopes too that this bill will open the door to other rare diseases and illnesses who need assistance too.

Josh's work with ALS began in 2004 when he first met Iowans with this rare but fatal disease. When in 2014, he had the opportunity to join the Iowa ALS Chapter, he jumped at it. The work he does is deeply meaningful because he is "helping the best people at the worst time of their lives", he said. As part of Executive Director for Iowa ALS, Josh's work include advocacy and supporting our community. Iowa ALS helps those with ALS learn

about their care options, invest in research, and hold community events like the annual "Walk for ALS" here in Des Moines and the national Ice Bucket Challenge that raises money—and awareness—for those with ALS. As part of Josh's work, he makes multiple trips from Iowa to Washington D.C. each year, meeting with our lawmakers to rally support for ALS research, funding, and of course this bill. Josh made this trip on behalf of Iowans with ALS who could not, bringing their stories to legislators across Iowa and Washington.

Josh's passion for Iowa is clear. He's served our communities in so many ways and we're lucky to have him during this extremely difficult time, as the pandemic has not only been frightening for those with longterm illnesses, like ALS, but the economic strain on our nonprofits across the country. Although the pandemic has changed the way Josh and the Iowa ALS provide help, they still make sure they are providing the same level of care for Iowans and their families. Josh credits his amazing co-workers, caring board members, and volunteers across the state who all work together and of course his wife, Kate, and their twin daughters Lydia and Taylor—who would like the record to show they are 12 and a half. "We are Iowa" he said, explaining that Iowans pitch in and help each other in times of need. It is Josh's love for his fellow Iowans, passion for change, and service to our community that I am proud to name him Iowan of the Week.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JULIO
AUGUST SANDINO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 28, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Julio August Sandino, who passed away on November 17, 2020. Julio was a longtime Merced County resident and United States Army veteran.

Julio was born on September 29, 1933 in Merced, California to Guido Sr. and Carola Sandino, both Italian immigrants. He was the youngest of three boys. Growing up on a farm, Julio understood the value of hard work and the art of growing the best onions and tomatoes. After being a four-year basketball varsity player for Merced High School, setting several school scoring records and receiving the best student award in woodshop, Julio joined the United States Army from 1953 to 1955 as a corporal stationed in Germany during the Cold War. During that time, he made the regimental basketball team.

Julio returned home after serving honorably in the Army and met the love of his life, Rita Albiani, a daughter of Italian immigrants from Livingston, California. In 1956, they were married at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Merced and started a family of their own. Julio started his own business, Sandino's Custom Cabinet Shop, which he owned for 40 years until retirement, and Rita worked as an accountant and managed medical offices.

Julio started his love of woodwork on his family's farm and converted animal and storage sheds into his cabinet shop. He made beautiful pieces of cabinet work that was well-known in Merced County, Tahoe, San Francisco, and Yosemite. During his career, Julio